



September 24, 2008

CTE Directors and Health Science Education Teachers:

Attached is an application for the **Virtual Healthcare Interactive Project**. This project is a partnership between the Utah State Office of Education and Intermountain Health Care. This is a unique program where students can view an actual taped surgery telecast live to their classrooms and speak to the surgeon using real-time technology. Students will receive exposure to a variety of healthcare careers related to the surgery as well as pre- and post-event curricula and activities designed to provide them with the background information they need to understand the surgical procedure: ***artificial heart***. With increased confidentiality concerns, work-based learning experiences have decreased in the health care area over the last few years. Engaging students through technology allows hospitals to bring more students into their environment with limited liability exposure and minimal interruption to the hospital.

How it works: The target audience is high school students interested in healthcare careers. The live event is scheduled for Wednesday, February 25, 2009 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. In January/ February 2009, a site team from IHC will visit each participating high school to help introduce students to the event and assist the teachers in providing background information for the surgery. On the day of the surgical event, the participating high schools will be linked to the Utah State Office of Education via EdNet. Students will participate in a 2-hour event where they view the taped surgery and can communicate with the surgeon directly. Participating students are expected to be present for the entire event.

Applications from interested high school sites are due back to the USOE by Thursday, October 23, 2008. Applications will be reviewed by a committee from USOE and IHC. Notification will be made by Friday, November 7, 2008. Each site may have a maximum of 50 participants (or up to the size your Ednet facility will allow). Smaller schools are encouraged (but not required) to partner with other schools in their areas in order to maximize the number of participants. Sites will receive pre- and post-event curricula and activities that will be required for all participating students regardless of the Health Science course they may be enrolled in. Students will also be required to turn in a fully signed compliance packet from IHC prior to the event. Business attire will be required of the students during the event and site visit. Appropriate student behavior and discipline must be monitored by the HST teacher and/or administrators during the event and site visit as well. Post-event evaluations from the students and teachers will also be required.

Included with this letter is the VHI application. Please follow the application requirements exactly, but feel free to alter the form as needed if a group of schools are applying together. Also included with this information are a student application and an application rubric. HST teachers may choose whether or not they use this tool. Its purpose is to assist teachers with more than 50 interested students in deciding which students will be able to participate. Ultimately it is up to the teacher/school to decide how the participating students are selected.

We are excited about this opportunity and feel that each and every participating student will have a valuable and exciting experience. Please feel free to make contact with any person listed below if you have questions. Remember that all applications must be received by the USOE no later than Thursday, October 23, 2008.

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Sherry Marchant
Work-Based Learning Specialist, USOE
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VIRTUAL HEALTHCARE INTERACTIVE PROJECT PACKET OVERVIEW



1. VHI Project Cover Letter

- Provides a project overview and general expectations for sites, teachers, Ednet facilitators, and administrators, as well as important dates.

2. VHI Project Site Application

- Application for completion indicating your interest in the project. This application is due back to the USOE by Thursday, October 23, 2008. The application should be signed by the health science teacher(s), Ednet facilitator, CTE director, and school principal.

3. VHI Project Student Application and Rubric

- Provided as a tool for your site to use if you choose. Its purpose is to assist teachers with more than 50 interested students to decide which students will be able to participate. Ultimately it is up to the teacher/school to decide how the students are selected.

- Completed applications should be forwarded to:



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Career & Technical Education
250 East 500 South
P.O. Box 144200
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-4200



- Notification of selected sites will be made by Friday, November 7, 2008.